

HAROLD E. STASSEN
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WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

EARL E. HART
SECRETARY

May 1, 1947

Rear Admiral R. H. Hillenkoetter, U.S.N.
New War Department Building
21st and Virginia Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Admiral Hillenkoetter:

Thank you for your letter of April 30th.

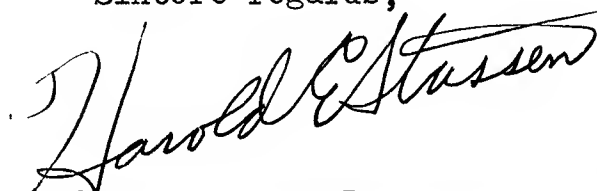
I am of course inclined to respond to your request.

I have two questions with reference to it. In the first instance my observation is that usually the fact of such an appearance would in due time appear in some Washington column. This causes me to ask whether it is not the course of wisdom to make a simple announcement in advance that I had been asked to give my general observations to the Central Intelligence Group and that I intended to do so?

The second question is whether or not, if I frankly and completely present my observations and impressions, you would be agreeable to telling me at the conclusion of our session which of these observations and impressions you have reason to question because of other information. In other words, in exchange for a completely frank and direct exposure of the tentative impressions I have, you in return simply indicate that you would question the correctness of certain of these impressions. This would have obvious value to me in my continuing study and analysis of the European and world situation.

Would you wish to have Mr. Jay Cooke and Mr. Robert Matteson present with me. Both of these gentlemen accompanied me throughout the trip and in all the conferences, and both were in the U. S. Army during the recent war. May 10th or May 12th appear to be possibilities in my tentative schedule.

Sincere regards,



HES tjs

30 April 1947

Honorable Harold E. Stassen
1028 Connecticut Ave., NW
Washington, D. C.

My dear Governor Stassen:

Selected officers of the Central Intelligence Group would be greatly appreciative if you were to find it practicable during your present visit in Washington to favor us with the impressions which you have formed regarding general conditions during your recent European tour.

We hope that you might be able to give us from an hour to an hour and a half of your time since we feel that your summary of the situation would be of inestimable value. If you will be good enough to inform me whether you may have the time and will indicate your preferences as to the hour and date upon which you might find it most convenient to visit us, I shall be most pleased to escort you to our presentation room and will see that all other necessary arrangements are made.

Very sincerely yours,

R. H. HILLENKOETTER
Rear Admiral, USN

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